

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are pending in the present application.

The Examiner has required election in the present application between:

Group I, claims 1-16 and 31, drawn to a method and medium for requesting and receiving information, classified in class 707, subclass 2; and

Group II, claims 17-30, drawn to a classification system, classified in class 707, subclass 101.

For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group 1, Claims 1-16 and 31.

Applicants note that the Office Action requires election in accordance with 37 CFR §1.499, which states that “If the examiner finds that a national stage application lacks unity of invention under § 1.475, the examiner may in an Office action require the applicant in the response to that action to elect the invention to which the claims shall be restricted.” (see MPEP Appendix R §1.499).

Because the present Application is a national stage application, a unity of invention analysis under 37 CFR §1.475 is the proper standard of evaluation. 37 CFR §1.475 specifically states that a national stage application containing claims directed to “a process and an apparatus or means specifically designed for carrying out the said process” will be considered to have unity of invention. (see MPEP Appendix R §1.475(b)(4)).

Applicants respectfully note that the present invention pertains to a method for classifying records (claim 1) and a classification system for records (claim 17). Applicants respectfully submit that claim 17 is, for the purposes of analysis under 37 CFR §1.475, an apparatus specifically designed for carrying out the method of claim 1. Applicants therefore

submit that claims 1 and 17 meet the unity of invention requirements set forth in 37 CFR §1.475 and that therefore restriction of these claims is not proper.

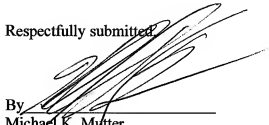
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Naphtali Matlis, (Registration No. 61,592) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

- ☒ Attached is a Petition for Extension of Time.
- ☒ Attached hereto is the fee transmittal listing the required fees.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,



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